

review of the Maryland State Police, which had infiltrated activist groups that were lawfully protesting against the death penalty and the war in Iraq.

Steve may be gone, but his legacy is firmly established. Last Friday, I had the honor of attending the investiture of Erik Baron as the first Black U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland. Erik is just one of Steve's countless proteges carrying on his mission. Erik said, "Steve Sachs was one of the most respected public servants in Maryland's history and a personal mentor to me and many others."

Deuteronomy 16:20 implores us, "Justice, justice you shall pursue . . .". That was Steve Sachs' guiding principle. He did all he could to make the world a better place. It wasn't always easy or comfortable, but he understood the importance of justice under the law. I respected his legal passion, and I am grateful that he shared it with generations of Maryland attorneys as a mentor and a friend. On behalf of the Senate, I send my condolences to his daughter Elisabeth Sachs, his son Leon Sachs, his three grandchildren, and other family members and all those who were fortunate to have him as a friend, colleague, or mentor and mourn his passing.●

REMEMBERING SHERRA FERTITTA

● Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Sherra Fertitta of Monroe, LA. Mrs. Fertitta leaves behind a legacy of generosity, optimism, and intellect after a remarkable career as a student, educator, and incredibly engaged member of her community.

Mrs. Fertitta was proud to teach for more than 25 years across three States before retiring in 2010 from Ouachita Parish High School. Upon completion of her impressive teaching career, Ms. Fertitta accepted the title of educational director of Vantage Health Plan of Louisiana. Here, she created an educational series via weekly radio interviews with Representative Michael Echols for public health education purposes.

Ms. Fertitta continued her community involvement as a member and core organizer of OPWRC for more than a decade. She spearheaded many projects during her time with OPWRC, including an event during August 2020 that safely provided a forum for Fifth District congressional candidates and voters to interact ahead of the election season amidst a global pandemic.

I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Ms. Fertitta, who have lost an invaluable loved one. Her memory will live on with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all whom she encountered as a dedicated, kindhearted educator.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK KOLE

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH,

Representative MIKE SIMPSON and Representative RUSS FULCHER, we congratulate Pat Kole on his well-earned retirement from serving as vice president, legal and government affairs of the Idaho Potato Commission.

Pat has been a steady hand at the helm of the Idaho Potato Commission, IPC, promoting the iconic Idaho potatoes for more than 25 years. Serving as the IPC's vice president, legal and government affairs, Pat has managed Federal, State, and local government affairs for the IPC, directed its trademark-licensing program, directed its research and education program, and supervised its IT needs. His work has included litigating certification mark cases, registering certification marks in many jurisdictions, testifying before the U.S. Congress and advocating for public policy supporting Idaho potato producers' ability to grow this central agricultural product and feed consumers at home and around the world. To say Pat has gone the extra mile to support Idaho potato production is an understatement, considering in 2005 he ran the Marine Corps Marathon as a representative of the IPC and to help promote the importance of complex carbohydrates, such as those found in Idaho potatoes.

Pat, who earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan and law degree from the University of Denver, has practiced law for more than 40 years. His experience, calm, persistence, and ability to dig into the crux of the problem have been instrumental in facing the challenges that have undoubtedly arisen over the years. This includes his thoughtful advocacy for measured approaches to help with the eradication of the pale cyst nematode, assist producers, and regain markets. More recently, Pat provided critical assistance and advocacy for the needs of Idaho's potato producers as relief efforts were considered for the historic agricultural disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout, Pat's efforts and those of the Idaho potato producers he works with and supports have helped fortify the Idaho potato as a standout symbol of Idaho and U.S. agriculture. It is no surprise Pat has received recognitions for his attentive work. This includes Pat being named The Packer's 2022 Potato Person for All Seasons.

Pat is known as someone who always does his homework and who carefully thinks through the details. That has made him an instrumental partner to us as we work on Federal policy affecting the potato industry. We always know that when Pat raises an issue, he does so with scrupulous grounding, and we know we get a straight and accurate response when we reach out to him for guidance. When policy questions arise that we know will affect the potato industry, Pat is the first we call.

Thank you, Pat, for being such a trusted advocate for the Idaho potato industry all these years and your dec-

ades of service to the Gem State. Congratulations, again, on your retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIC ATKINSON

● Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Eric Atkinson of Topeka, KS.

Growing up on a farm outside of Winfield, KS, Eric would listen to the radio at night as his way to stay connected with current events. Captivated by the transmissions that reached him, he became involved with radio in high school, resulting in a lifelong passion for broadcasting. Eric graduated from Kansas State University with a broadcasting degree and worked several jobs in radio, as well as on the family farm, before the opportunity to host "Agriculture Today" arose. He would go on to host the radio program for 39 years, broadcasting over 9,000 shows and interviewing hundreds of agriculture experts and professionals about the issues most relevant to Kansas agriculture.

In the 39 years Eric hosted "Agriculture Today," he made it his goal for the show to serve as a platform for agriculture professionals to share their expertise. He made an effort to ask the most relevant questions and discuss important research topics during his time on air. Throughout his time on the radio, Eric has been credited as an accomplished professional who always worked hard to make sure the issues at hand were easily relatable for farmers across Kansas. His substantial presence in farm truck radios across the State as the host of "Agriculture Today" will continue to be on the hearts and minds of farmers and agribusiness officials.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the wonderful impact Mr. Eric Atkinson has had on the agriculture industry and to honor him for his 39 years of service to Kansas farmers.●

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS LEON

● Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Chris Leon of Wichita, KS.

Chris started volunteering for Kansas Honor Flight 8 years ago. Kansas Honor Flight is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to honoring Kansas veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam by sending these heroes on an all-expense-paid journey of honor and remembrance to visit their memorials in Washington, DC. Chris has demonstrated outstanding leadership in his volunteer work with ALLmetal Recycling, and thanks to his efforts crushing aluminum cans, Kansas Honor Flight has been able to send countless veterans on a trip of a lifetime to Washington, DC. Chris is now 31 years old and continues to demonstrate his leadership and support for our veterans through his exemplary volunteer work.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting Chris on his visit to Washington DC, and I can't wait to see what he accomplishes